

**Foundation of Cryptography  
(0368-4162-01), Lecture 2  
Pseudorandom Generators**

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## Section 1

# Distributions and Statistical Distance

## Distributions and Statistical Distance

Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be two distributions over a finite set  $\mathcal{U}$ . Their *statistical distance* (also known as, variation distance), denoted by  $\text{SD}(P, Q)$ , is defined as

$$\text{SD}(P, Q) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{U}} |P(x) - Q(x)| = \max_{\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{U}} P(\mathcal{S}) - Q(\mathcal{S})$$

We will only consider finite distributions.

### Claim 1

For any pair of (finite) distribution  $P$  and  $Q$ , it holds that such

$$\text{SD}(P, Q) = \max_D \Pr_{x \leftarrow P}[D(x) = 1] - \Pr_{x \leftarrow Q}[D(x) = 1],$$

where  $D$  is any algorithm.

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## Some useful facts

Let  $P, Q, D$  be finite distributions, then

**Triangle inequality:**

$$\text{SD}(P, D) \leq \text{SD}(P, Q) + \text{SD}(Q, D)$$

**Repeated sampling:**

$$\text{SD}((D, D), (Q, Q)) \leq 2 \cdot \text{SD}(P, Q)$$

## Distribution ensembles and statistical indistinguishability

### Definition 2 (distribution ensembles)

$\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a distribution ensemble, if  $D_n$  is a (finite) distribution for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\mathcal{D}$  is efficiently samplable (or just efficient), if  $\exists$  PPT  $D$  with  $D(1^n) \equiv D_n$ .

### Definition 3 (statistical indistinguishability)

Two distribution ensembles  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are *statistically indistinguishable*, if  $|\Delta_{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^D(n)| = \text{neg}(n)$ , for any algorithm  $D$ , where

$$\Delta_{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^D(n) = \Pr_{x \leftarrow P_n}[\Delta D(1^n, x) = 1] - \Pr_{x \leftarrow Q_n}[D(1^n, x) = 1].$$

Alternatively,  $\text{SD}(P_n, D_n) = \text{neg}(n)$ .

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## Section 2

# Computational Indistinguishability



## Computational Indistinguishability

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- Can it be different from the statistical case?
- Non uniform variant
- triangle inequality holds (elaborate..)
- Sometime behaves different then expected!

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## Repeated sampling

### Question 5

Assume that  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are computationally indistinguishable, is it always true that  $\mathcal{P}^2 = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P})$  and  $\mathcal{Q}^2 = (\mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{Q})$  are?

Assume that  $|\Delta_{(\mathcal{P}^2, \mathcal{Q}^2)}^D(n)| = \delta(n)$  for some PPT  $D$ , we would like to prove that  $\exists$  PPT  $D'$  with  $|\Delta_{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^{D'}(n)| \geq \delta(n)/2$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Indeed

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(n) &= |\Pr_{x \leftarrow \mathcal{P}_n^2}[D(x) = 1] - \Pr_{x \leftarrow \mathcal{Q}_n^2}[D(x) = 1]| \\ &\leq \left| \Pr_{x \leftarrow \mathcal{P}_n^2}[D(x) = 1] - \Pr_{x \leftarrow (\mathcal{P}_n, \mathcal{Q}_n)}[D(x) = 1] \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \Pr_{x \leftarrow (\mathcal{P}_n, \mathcal{Q}_n)}[D(x) = 1] - \Pr_{x \leftarrow \mathcal{Q}_n^2}[D(x) = 1] \right| \\ &= \left| \Delta_{(\mathcal{P}^2, (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}))}^D(n) \right| + \left| \Delta_{((\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}), \mathcal{Q}^2)}^D(n) \right| \end{aligned}$$

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- Assume that  $\left| \Delta_{(\mathcal{P}^2, \mathcal{Q}^2)}^D(n) \right| \geq 1/p(n)$  for some  $p \in \text{poly}$  and infinitely many  $n$ 's, and assume wlg. that  $\left| \Delta_{\mathcal{P}^2, (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^D(n) \right| \geq 1/2p(n)$  for infinitely many  $n$ 's.
- Can we use  $D$  to contradict the fact that  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are computationally close?
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## Repeated sampling cont.

Given  $t = t(n) \in \mathbb{N}$  and a distribution ensemble  $\mathcal{P} = \{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , let  $\mathcal{P}^t = \{P_n^{t(n)}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

### Question 6

Let  $t = t(n) \leq \text{poly}(n)$  be an eff. computable integer function. Assume that  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are eff. samplable and computationally indistinguishable, does it mean that  $\mathcal{P}^t$  and  $\mathcal{Q}^t$  are?

Proof:

- Induction?
- Hybrid



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## Hybrid argument

Let  $D$  be an algorithm, and for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let

$$\delta(n) = \left| \Delta_{(\mathcal{P}^{t(n)}, \mathcal{Q}^{t(n)})}^D(t(n)) \right|.$$

- For  $i \in \{0, \dots, t = t(n)\}$ , let  $H^i = (p_1, \dots, p_i, q_{i+1}, \dots, q_t)$ , where the  $p$ 's [resp.,  $q$ 's] are uniformly (and independently) chosen from  $P_n$  [resp., from  $Q_n$ ].

- Since  $\delta(n) = \left| \Delta_{H^n, H^0}^D(t) \right| = \left| \sum_{i \in [t]} \Delta_{H^i, H^{i-1}}^D(t) \right|$ , there exists  $i \in [t]$  with

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## Using hybrid argument via estimation

### Algorithm 7 ( $D'$ )

Input:  $1^n$  and  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$

- 1 Find  $i \in [t]$  with  $\left| \Delta_{H^i, H^{i-1}}^D(t) \right| \geq \delta(n)/2t(n)$
- 2 Return  $D(1^t, p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, x, q_{i+1}, \dots, q_t), .$

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- 2 Easy in the non-uniform case

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Input:  $1^n$  and  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$

- 1 Sample  $i \leftarrow [t = t(n)]$
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$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \Delta_{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^{D'}(n) \right| &= \left| \Pr[D'(p) = 1] - \Pr[D'(q) = 1] \right| \\
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- 1 Sample  $i \leftarrow [t = t(n)]$
- 2 Return  $D(1^t, p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, x, q_{i+1}, \dots, q_t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \Delta_{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q})}^{D'}(n) \right| &= \left| \Pr[D'(p) = 1] - \Pr[D'(q) = 1] \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i \in [t]} \Pr[D(p_1, \dots, p_i, q_{i+1}, \dots, q_t) = 1] \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i \in [t]} \Pr[D(p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, q_i, \dots, q_t) = 1] \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{1}{t} (D(p_1, \dots, p_t) - D(q_1, \dots, q_t)) \right| = \delta(n)/t(n)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Section 3

# Pseudorandom Generators

## Definition 9 (pseudorandom distributions)

A distribution ensemble  $\mathcal{P}$  over  $\{\{0, 1\}^{\ell(n)}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is pseudorandom, if it is computationally indistinguishable from  $\{U_{\ell(n)}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ .

- Do such distributions exist?

## Definition 10 (pseudorandom generators (PRGs))

An efficiently computable function  $g : \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^{\ell(n)}$  is a pseudorandom generator, if

- $g$  is length extending (i.e.,  $\ell(n) > n$  for any  $n$ )
- $g(U_n)$  is pseudorandom

- Do such generators exist?
- Imply one-way functions
- Do they have any use?

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## Section 4

# Hardcore Predicates

## Hardcore predicates

- Building blocks in constructions of PRGS from OWF

### Definition 11 (hardcore predicates)

An efficiently computable function  $b : \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}$  is an hardcore predicate of  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$ , if

$$\Pr[P(f(U_n)) = b(U_n)] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{neg}(n),$$

for any PPT  $P$ .

- Does the existence of an hardcore predicate for  $f$ , implies that  $f$  is one way? If  $f$  is a (one-way) permutation?
- Fact: any PRG has HCP (HW).
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## Section 5

# PRGs from OWPs

## OWP to PRG

### Claim 12

Let  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$  be a permutation and let  $b : \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}$  be an hardcore predicate for  $f$ , then  $g(x) = (f(x), b(x))$  is a PRG.

Proof: Assume  $\exists$  a PPT  $D$ , and infinite set  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \in \text{poly}$  with  $\left| \Delta_{g(U_n), U_{n+1}}^D \right| > \varepsilon(n) = 1/p(n)$  for any  $n \in \mathcal{I}$ .

We use  $D$  for breaking the hardness of  $b$ .

- We assume wlg. that

$\Pr[D(g(U_n)) = 1] - \Pr[D(U_{n+1}) = 1] \geq \varepsilon(n)$  for any  $n \in \mathcal{I}$   
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## OWP to PRG cont.

- Let  $\delta(n) = \Pr[D(U_{n+1}) = 1]$  (note that  $\Pr[D(G(U_n)) = 1] = \delta + \varepsilon$ ).
- Compute

$$\begin{aligned}\delta &= \Pr[D(f(U_n), U_1) = 1] \\ &= \Pr[U_1 = b(U_n)] \cdot \Pr[D(f(U_n), U_1) = 1 \mid U_1 = b(U_n)] \\ &\quad + \Pr[U_1 = \overline{b(U_n)}] \cdot \Pr[D(f(U_n), U_1) = 1 \mid U_1 = \overline{b(U_n)}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\delta + \varepsilon) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr[D(f(U_n), U_1) = 1 \mid U_1 = \overline{b(U_n)}].\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\Pr[D(f(U_n), \overline{b(U_n)}) = 1] = \delta - \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

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- 1  $\Pr[D(f(U_n), b(U_n)) = 1] = \delta + \varepsilon$
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- 3 Consider the following algorithm for predicting  $b$ :

## Algorithm 13 (P)

Input:  $y \in \{0, 1\}^n$

- 1 Flip a random coin  $c \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ .
- 2 If  $D(y, c) = 1$  output  $c$ , otherwise, output  $\bar{c}$ .
- 3 It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[P(f(U_n)) = b(U_n)] \\ &= \Pr[c = b(U_n)] \cdot \Pr[D(f(U_n), c) = 1 \mid c = b(U_n)] \\ & \quad + \Pr[c = \overline{b(U_n)}] \cdot \Pr[D(f(U_n), c) = 0 \mid c = \overline{b(U_n)}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot (\delta + \varepsilon) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \delta + \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

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## OWP to PRG cont.

### Remark 14

- Prediction to distinguishing (HW)
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## Section 6

# PRG Length Extension



## PRG Length Extension

### Construction 15 (iteration)

Given a function  $g: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^\ell$  be a length increasing function, and let  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define  $g^i: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^{n+i(\ell-n)}$  as

$$g^i(x) = x_{n+1, \dots, |x^{i-1}|}^{i-1}, g(x_{1, \dots, n}^{i-1}),$$

where  $x^{i-1} = g^{i-1}(x)$  and  $g^0(x) = x$ .

### Claim 16

Let  $g: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$  be a PRG, then  $g^t: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^{n+t(n)}$  is a PRG, for any  $t \in \text{poly}$ .

Proof: Assume  $\exists$  a PPT  $D$ , and infinite set  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and  $p \in \text{poly}$  with  $\left| \Delta_{g^t(U_n), U_{n+t(n)}}^D \right| > \varepsilon(n) = 1/p(n)$ , for any  $n \in \mathcal{I}$ . We use  $D$  for breaking the hardness of  $g$ .

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## PRG Length Extension cont.

- Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for  $i \in \{0, \dots, t = t(n)\}$ , let  $H^i = X_{n+1, \dots, |X^i|}^i, g^i(X_{1, \dots, n}^i)$ , where  $X^i = U_{n+t-i}$
- Note that  $H^0 \equiv U_{n+t}$  and  $H^t \equiv g^t(U_n)$ .

### Algorithm 17 ( $D'$ )

Input:  $1^n$  and  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$

- Sample  $i \leftarrow \{0, \dots, t-1\}$
- Return  $D(1^n, U_{n-i-1}, y_{n+1}, g^i(y_{1, \dots, n}))$ .

### Claim 18

$$\left| \Delta_{g(U_n), U_{n+1}}^{D'} \right| > \varepsilon(n)/t(n)$$

Proof: at home...

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- Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for  $i \in \{0, \dots, t = t(n)\}$ , let  $H^i = X_{n+1, \dots, |X^i|}^i, g^i(X_{1, \dots, n}^i)$ , where  $X^i = U_{n+t-i}$
- Note that  $H^0 \equiv U_{n+t}$  and  $H^t \equiv g^t(U_n)$ .

### Algorithm 17 (D')

Input:  $1^n$  and  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$

- 1 Sample  $i \leftarrow \{0, \dots, t-1\}$
- 2 Return  $D(1^n, U_{n-i-1}, y_{n+1}, g^i(y_{1, \dots, n}))$ .

### Claim 18

$$\left| \Delta_{g(U_n), U_{n+1}}^{D'} \right| > \varepsilon(n)/t(n)$$

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